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### Role of public interest groups to be explained at University Wednesday

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ROLE OF PUBLIC INTEREST  
GROUPS TO BE EXPLAINED  
AT UNIVERSITY WEDNESDAY

MISSOULA--

The second in a series of organizational meetings designed to explain the need for a public interest group to identify and solve social and environmental problems will be held Wednesday (Jan. 19) at the University of Montana under the sponsorship of the UM chapter of the Montana Public Interest Research Group (MontPIRG).

James R. Parker, director of planning for Missoula-Mineral Human Resources, will be keynote speaker at the meeting, which is scheduled for 7 p.m. in room 360 I-J of the University Center. He will discuss the role of public interest organizations such as MontPIRG in researching and advocating solutions for low income problems in Montana and in defining the role of organizers in such organizations.

James P. Betty, Kalamazoo, Mich., a graduate student in forestry at UM and one of the organizers of the MontPIRG program on campus, said the lecture series is designed as a "communiversity" information series modeled after similar programs in Minnesota and Oregon and most recently in Vermont. He said the public interest aspects of the program were developed originally by consumer defender Ralph Nader's Public Interest Research Group and the Center for the Study of Responsive Law, Washington, D.C.

The term "communiversity" was coined by University of Minnesota President Malcolm Moos at his inaugural address, according to Betty.

Betty said residents of the Missoula area, including University students, faculty and staff, are invited to attend Wednesday's organizational meeting.

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